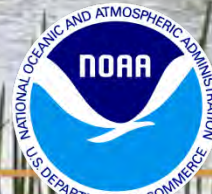


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DAMAGE ASSESSMENT, REMEDIATION, & RESTORATION PROGRAM



If You Spill It, They Will Come: Exploring Opportunities for Using Volunteers Before, During, and After Oil Spills

Tom Brosnan, Courtney Groeneveld, Joe Inslee, Renata Lana

Restore America's Estuaries Conference

Oct. 22, 2012

Outline

Goal: introduce the issues, brainstorm, and partner on next steps

- Issues relayed from the public during Deepwater Horizon
- Oil Spill Continuum
- Volunteer Opportunities during:
 - Emergency Response
 - Damage Assessment (NRDA)
- Next steps



Issues relayed from the public during Deepwater Horizon (DWH)

- More information, real-time
- Greater transparency in decision-making
- Greater role in cleanup response, assessment, and restoration actions and decisions
- Opportunities to help by volunteering on the ground



NOAA Scientific Support Continuum

Planning and
Tools



Restoration
and
Recovery



Emergency
Response



Damage
Assessment
(NRDA)

Volunteer Opportunities During Planning (Pre-spill)

Before a spill, group documents marine life in N.J.

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WAYNE PARRY

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SOUTH AMBOY — In the distance loomed the huge metal tanks storing edge.

But right on the shoreline of the Raritan Bay, amid the deep green sea le there were bait fish, clams, mussels, and shrimp, with shorebirds swoop meal.

The Raritan and Delaware bays are home to heavy petrochemical opera environmental damage in the event of a spill.

Because of that, a group of volunteers is fanning out along the coast of waterways to document fish, plants and animals that are there now. Th American Littoral Society will help form a starting point to compare w

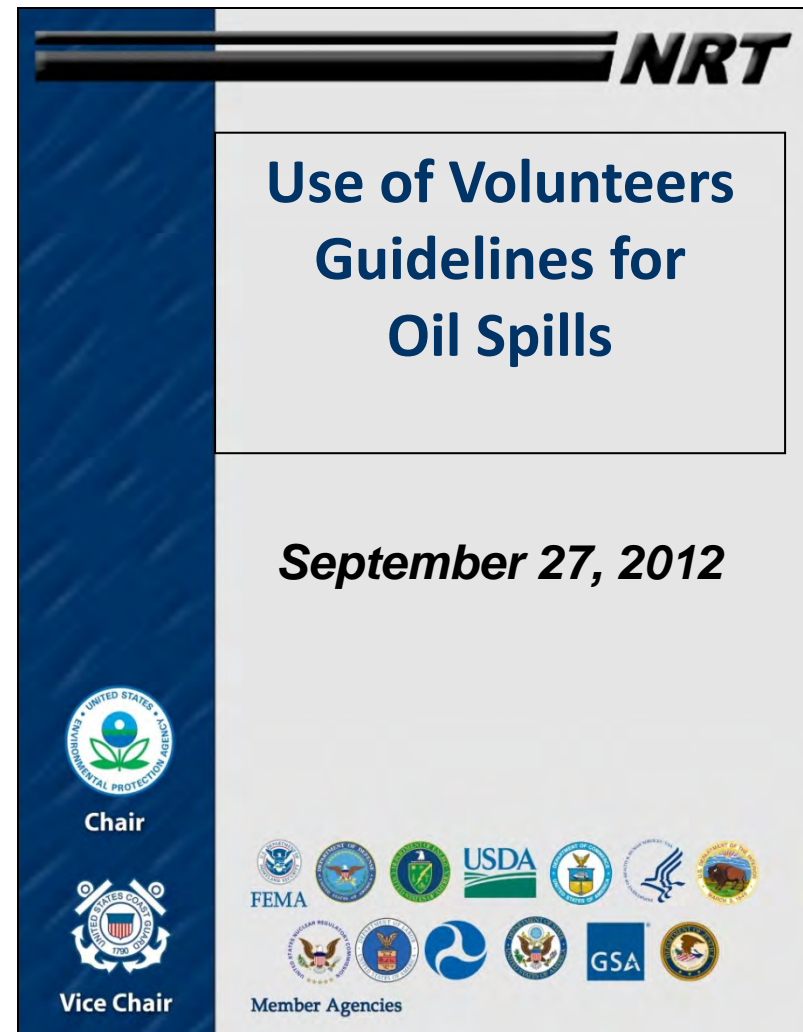


Volunteer Opportunities During Emergency Response



Use of Volunteers Guidelines for Oil Spills—National Response Team

- Guidance for Federal On-scene Coordinators and Area Committees
- Covers authorities, regulations, training, registration, liability, funding, management, MOU, affiliated vs. unaffiliated volunteers, etc.



Potential Uses of Volunteers— Emergency Response

- Oiled Wildlife Rehabilitation*
- Shoreline Cleanup Support*
- Public Relations/Community Liaison
- Community Liaison Social Services
- Logistics
- Transportation
- Medical
- Personnel Support Services
- Boat Operations (boat owners who volunteer)*



*Indicates person may be exposed to oil and may require specific training in addition to hazard training. Additionally, these tasks may require unique Health and Safety Plans (HASPs), per other federal regulations (such as HAZWOPER), and dedicated health monitoring and surveillance.

Recommendation to use affiliated volunteers

Source: NRT, 2012. Use of Volunteers, Guidelines for Oil Spills

Case Study: *T/V Prestige* oil spill

Spain, November 2002



Amount Spilled	14.9M gal fuel oil
Area Impacted	1000 km of beaches
Number of volunteers	5,000-10,000
Primary tasks of volunteers	Manually cleanup shoreline, recover/care oiled wildlife
Issues	<p>Internet role in coordination of volunteers</p> <p>Lack of training/equipment</p> <p>Concern re: long-term respiratory health of volunteers</p>

Case Study: *T/V Cosco Busan* oil spill

San Francisco Bay, Nov 2007



Amount Spilled	58,000 gal. of fuel oil
Area Impacted	Large portion of S.F. Bay, and outer coast
Number of volunteers	1,007 deployed (in addition to wildlife volunteers)
Primary tasks of volunteers	Beach cleanup, wildlife cleanup
Issues	<p>Social Media heavily used to promote “calls to action.”</p> <p>Affiliated/trained and unaffiliated volunteers</p> <p>Coordination challenges w/command center</p>

Case Study: Enbridge Line 6B Pipeline

Michigan, July 2010

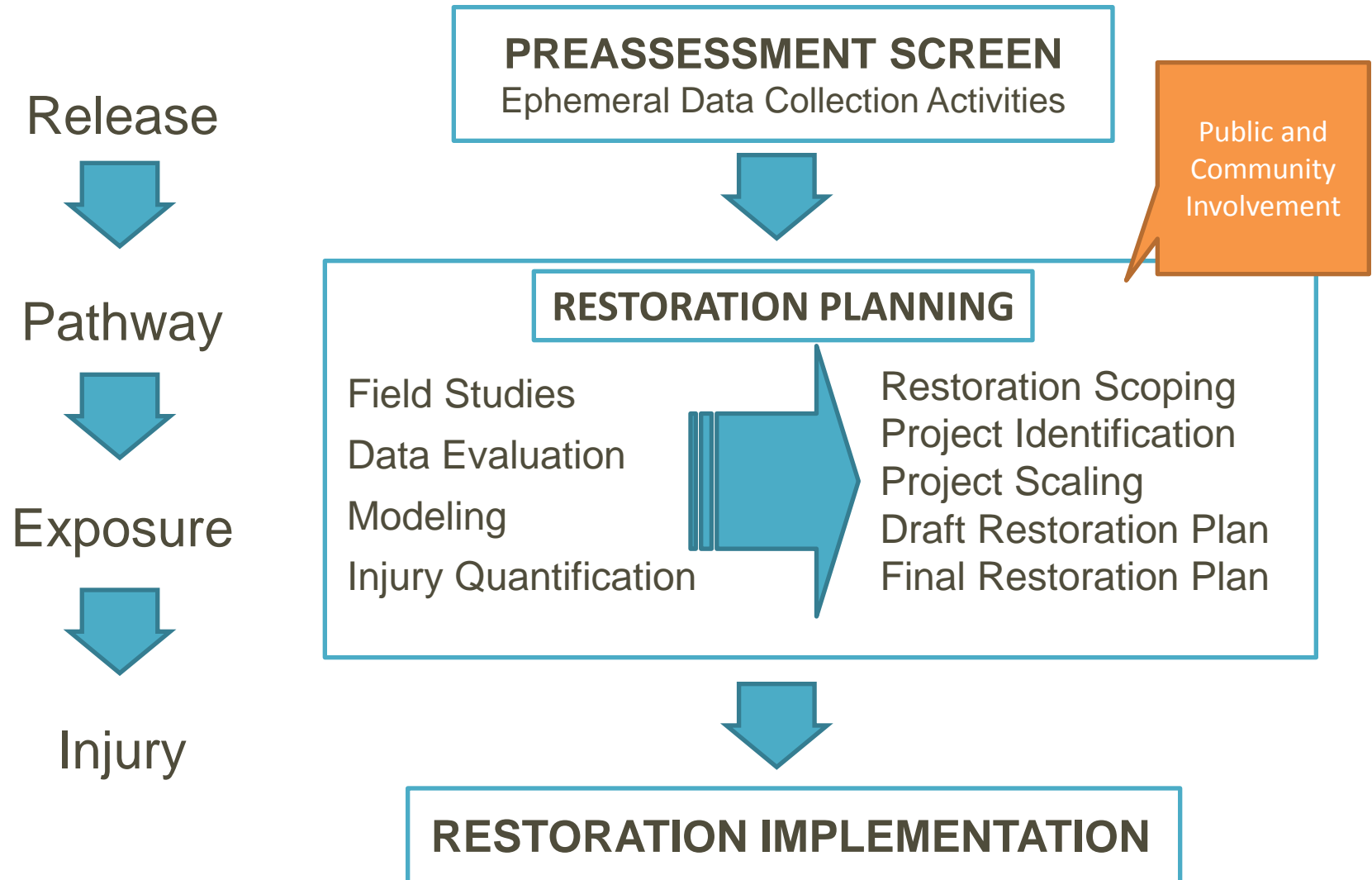


Amount Spilled	843,444 gal. of crude oil
Area Impacted	35 miles of Kalamazoo R. and tributary
Number of volunteers	150
Primary tasks of volunteers	Wildlife cleaning
Issues	<p>Volunteer Manager to screen, schedule, organize, and track volunteers. County managed calls.</p> <p>Local church managed donation center</p>

Volunteer Opportunities During a Damage Assessment (NRDA)



Oil Pollution Act NRDA Framework



Potential Opportunities and Challenges For Use of Volunteers in NRDA

Potential Opportunities

- Pre-spill baseline data collection
- Expertise on natural resources in the area
- Sample collection
- Restoration planning –type and location of restoration
- Implementation of restoration
- Post-restoration monitoring and stewardship of projects

Challenges

- Litigation case
- Liability
- Health and Safety
- Access
- Training (Hazwopr, sampling)
- Equipment
- Transport and housing
- Permitting
- Timing, reliability
- Managing all this

Case Study: Commencement Bay

Volunteers in Post-Restoration Monitoring and Stewardship



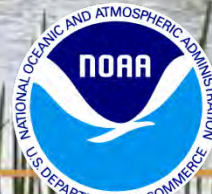
- Trustees funded Citizens for a Healthy Bay, which represents and engages citizens in the cleanup, restoration, and protection of Commencement Bay.
- CHB solicits and oversees volunteer efforts to maintain numerous completed NRDA restoration projects in the Commencement Bay area.
- Trustees select NGOs based upon the areas they work in, their ability to energize and organize volunteers and their technical expertise for restoration stewardship and monitoring.
- In the past the Trustees have also worked with Friends of the Hylebos, and Earth Corps in that region, for other settlements.

Volunteer hours- Commencement Bay 2010 (13 sites)

Number of Volunteers	527
Volunteer Hours	2384
Total Hours of Work	2946

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Next Steps

- **Partnerships:** NOAA would like to partner with NGOs to explore how volunteers could productively be used in NRDA in future spills
- **Future Guidance:** Develop a guidance document that response, trustees, and NGOs could use.



Other Volunteer Opportunities

<http://www.volunteer.noaa.gov>

Fisheries

- NOAA Phytoplankton Monitoring Network
- Wildlife Conservation Steward
- Aquarium Assistant
- Ocean Life Sampler
- Coastal Life Sampler
- Fisheries Laboratory Assistant
- Aquaculture Assistant
- Museum Laboratory Assistant
- Hawaiian Green Sea Turtle Guardian

Some of these opportunities are directly with NOAA, and some are partnerships with NGOs.

Oceans

- National Marine Sanctuary Volunteer
- National Estuarine Reserve Volunteer

Research

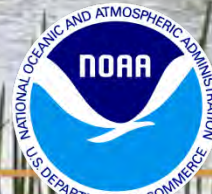
- Sea Grant is NOAA's primary university-based program in support of coastal resource use and conservation.
<http://www.seagrants.noaa.gov>

Weather

- Storm Spotters
- Daily Weather Observers
- Ship Weather Observers

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